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NORTH CAROLINA

Farm Report

COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

QUESTIONS PERTINENT TO THIS ISSUE

1. DISCUSS THE TREND IN FARM WAGES.
2. GIVE THE INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY N. C. FARMERS.
3. WHAT IS THE U. S. PARITY RATIO FOR JANUARY?
4. COMPARE 1951 HATCHERY OUTPUT WITH 1950 PRODUCTION.
5. GIVE THE INDICATED SIZE OF THE 1952 TURKEY CROP.
6. HOW MUCH HONEY WAS PRODUCED IN NORTH CAROLINA LAST YEAR?
7. GIVE THE TOTAL VALUE OF THE 1951 APPLE CROP.
8. WAS THERE ANY NOTICEABLE CHANGE IN FEED PRICES DURING JANUARY?

CURRENT NOTICE
★ MAR 12 1952
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

No. 102

RALEIGH, N. C.

FEBRUARY 5, 1952

AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND OTHER CURRENT ITEMS

FARM WAGE RATES INCREASE

Farm wage rates, both by the day and hour, increased in North Carolina during the year ended January 1, 1952.

The rate per day with house increased from \$3.70 on January 1, 1951 to \$4.00 on January 1, 1952. The rate per day without board or room increased from \$4.45 to \$4.85 during the same period.

The average rate per hour without board or room increased from 53 cents on January 1, 1951 to 59 cents on January 1, 1952.

Farm wage rates in the South Atlantic States also increased during the year ended January 1, 1952 (See table below)

DAILY AND HOURLY FARM WAGE RATES N. C. AND SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES COMPARED

AREA AND CLASSIFICATION	JAN. 1 1951	JAN. 1 1952
NORTH CAROLINA		
PER DAY: WITH HOUSE....	3.70	4.00
WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM.	4.45	4.85
PER HOUR:		
WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM.	.53	.59
SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES		
PER DAY: WITH HOUSE.....	3.55	3.95
WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM.	4.25	4.80
PER HOUR:		
WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM.	.55	.62

Increasing numbers of livestock to be fed this year are expected to reduce the feed grain carry-over next fall.

U. S. winter wheat production in '52 is forecast at 918 million bushels, 42 percent above the '51 crop.

U. S. hog production appears to be turning down, after increasing for 5 consecutive years. Farmers' intentions, as of December 1, point to 8 percent fewer sows to farrow this spring than a year earlier.

The seasonal price decline for eggs has started. By spring egg prices may be about the same as a year earlier, perhaps even lower.

RECORD DECEMBER CHICK HATCH

A total of 3,992,000 chicks were produced by commercial hatcheries in North Carolina during December. This was the largest December hatch on record, exceeding production during December 1950 by 43 percent and the five-year (1945-49) average by 138 percent. December production exceeded November production by over 12 percent or 447,000 chicks.

Output in the State during 1951 totaled 60,343,000 chicks. This exceeds production during 1950 by over 12 percent or 6,759,000 chicks.

South Carolina and Florida were the only South Atlantic States hatching less chicks in 1951 than in 1950. The decrease in Florida was minor whereas the decrease in South Carolina amounted to 8 percent. In the South Atlantic States eggs in incubators on January 1, 1952, were up 13 percent from a year earlier and 15 percent more chicks were booked for February delivery.

RECORD HONEY PRODUCTION IN NORTH CAROLINA DURING 1951

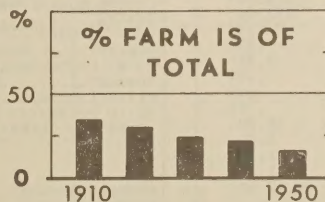
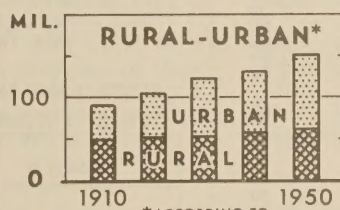
Production of honey in North Carolina during 1951 reached the highest level of record with a total of 6,426,000 pounds. The previous high record was set in 1947 with a production of 6,228,000 pounds.

Honey production during 1951 more than doubled the 1950 crop of 2,775,000 pounds. An average production of 34 pounds per colony was primarily responsible for the 1951 record crop since the number of colonies in 1951 exceeded 1950 by only 4,000 or from 185,000 colonies in 1950 to 189,000 in 1951. The yield of 34 pounds per colony in 1951 was the second highest of record. The record per colony yield was set in 1947 with 36 pounds.

Beeswax production in North Carolina in 1951 was 129,000 pounds compared with 56,000 pounds in 1950.

(Continued on Page 4)

POPULATION OF U. S.



DATA BASED ON 1950 CENSUS AND CENSUS-BAE ESTIMATES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 47603A-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 8 POINTS

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets dropped 8 points during the month ended January 15. The January 15 "All Farm Products" index at 302 compares with 310 in mid-December, 308 on January 15, 1951 and 218 on January 15, 1950.

The grains commodity index increased 4 points as the result of higher prices for corn, wheat, barley and rye. The grains commodity index at 199 is 7 points higher than on the same date last year.

The cotton and cottonseed index decreased two points as the result of slightly lower cotton prices. The increase of \$1.00 per ton in cottonseed was not enough to offset the decline in cotton.

The meat animals commodity index increased 8 points. The increase in beef cattle and lamb prices more than offset lower prices received for hogs, veal calves and sheep.

A decrease of five cents per pound in average burley prices resulted in a drop of 38 points in the tobacco price index.

The poultry commodity index dropped 38 points during the month ended January 15. The decrease of 12 cents per dozen in egg prices more than offset an increase of two cents per pound in the price of chickens.

The dairy commodity index decreased 3 points as the result of lower prices for milk and butter. Butterfat increased from 59 to 61 cents per pound.

The miscellaneous products index increased 14 points during the month ended January 15. Increased prices received for peanuts, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes and apples raised this index. Farmers received slightly lower prices for cowpeas, soybeans and wool.

The ratio of prices received by North Carolina farmers to prices paid by U. S. farmers decreased from 109 on December 15 to 105 on January 15. The index of prices received by U. S. farmers dropped 5 points during the month ended January 15 (see table below).

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS JANUARY 15, 1952

WITH COMPARISONS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA		U. S.
		DEC. 15 1951	JAN. 15 1952	JAN. 15 1952
- DOLLARS -				
CORN.....	BU.	1.66	1.70	1.68
WHEAT.....	BU.	2.19	2.22	2.20
OATS.....	BU.	1.05	1.04	.938
BARLEY.....	BU.	1.45	1.50	1.42
RYE.....	BU.	2.35	2.45	1.71
SOYBEANS.....	BU.	2.60	2.57	2.78
COWPEAS.....	BU.	4.25	4.25	3.82
PEANUTS.....	LB.	.121	.122	.104
TOBACCO.....	LB.	.507	.49 ^{a/}	.469
COTTON.....	LB.	.41	.407	.387
COTTONSEED.....	TON	71.00	72.00	70.10
WOOL.....	LB.	.75	.72	.613
HOGS.....	CWT.	18.70	18.40	17.40
BEEF CATTLE.....	CWT.	22.50	23.50	27.20
VEAL CALVES.....	CWT.	30.50	30.00	31.50
SHEEP.....	CWT.	13.30	13.00	13.40
LAMBS.....	CWT.	30.20	30.50	28.20
MILK COWS.....	HEAD	178.00	179.00	253.00
CHICKENS.....	LB.	.253	.273	.251
EGGS.....	DOZ.	.66	.54	.405
MILK, WHLSE.....	CWT.	6.00	5.95	5.16
RETAIL.....	QT.	.211	.207	.205
BUTTER.....	LB.	.58	.57	.641
BUTTERFAT.....	LB.	.59	.61	.799
HAY, ALL BALED.....	TON	31.10	31.90	25.50
POTATOES.....	BU.	2.00	2.20	2.07
SWEET POTATOES.....	BU.	2.95	3.25	3.47
APPLES COMMERCIAL.....	BU.	2.10	2.20	2.33
LESPEDEZA SEED.....	CWT.	12.50	13.10	12.90
KOREAN.....	CWT.	11.00	11.60	-
KOBE.....	CWT.	14.00	14.50	-
COM. & TENN. 76.....	CWT.	15.00	15.50	-
SERICEA.....	CWT.	18.00	19.00	-

a. Type 31, Burley

COMPARISON OF U. S. PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS
AND PARITY PRICES

COMMODITY	PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS		PARITY OR COMPARABLE PRICES		AVERAGE PRICES AS PERCENTAGE OF PARITY	
	DEC. 15 1951	JAN. 15 1952	DEC. 15 1951	JAN. 15 1952	DEC. 15 1951	JAN. 15 1952
- DOLLARS -						
COTTON, LB.....	.403	.387	.341	.344	118	113
WHEAT, BU.....	2.22	2.20	2.43	2.45	91	90
CORN, BU.....	1.69	1.68	1.77	1.78	95	94
OATS, BU.....	.949	.938	.99c/	.944c/	96	99
BARLEY, BU.....	1.38	1.42	1.53c/	1.45 c/	90	98
RYE, BU.....	1.73	1.71	1.78 c/	1.69 c/	97	-
BEEF CATTLE, CWT.	27.50	27.20	19.90	21.10	138	129
HOGS, CWT.	17.60	17.40	21.50	21.50	82	81
LAMBS, CWT.	28.50	28.20	21.90	23.20	130	122
CHICKENS, LB.....	.234	.251	.315	.307	74	82
EGGS, DOZ.....	.511	.405	.532c/	.507c/	83d/	81d/
MILK, WHLSE, CWT.	5.19a/	5.16b/	4.83	4.82	98a/d/	101d/

a/ Revised b/ Preliminary c/ Transitional parity, 85 percent (90 percent during 1951) of parity price computed under formula in use prior to Jan. 1, 1950. d/ Percentage of seasonally adjusted prices to parity prices.

U. S. PRICES RECEIVED DOWN 5 POINTS

Lower prices for eggs and turkeys, cotton and cottonseed, most meat animals, and oranges and grapefruit during the month ending January 15, 1952, were primarily responsible for reducing the Index of Prices Received by Farmers 5 points or nearly 2 percent. Higher prices for butterfat, chickens, veal calves, hay, and rice partly offset the decreases. As of January 15, the Index of Prices Received by Farmers stood at 300 percent of the 1910-14 average, the same as a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers including Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (Parity Index) rose 3 points, or slightly over 1 percent, to 287 during the month ending January 15. Higher prices for feeder cattle, feed, and food, offset only in part by lower prices for clothing and building materials, raised the Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for commodities 2 points, or about three-fourths of one percent, to 275. This increase, combined with increases of 5 percent in the index of farm wage rates, 4 percent in the index of taxes payable per acre on farm real estate, and 8 percent in the index of interest payable per acre on mortgages secured by farm real estate, accounted for the rise in the over-all index. It is now 15 points or 5.5 percent higher than January a year ago.

As a result of these changes, the Parity Ratio (ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid by Farmers including Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates) dropped 2 points and as of January 15, 1952, stood at 105. This is 5 points (5 percent) below January 1951.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS

(N.C. PRICES RECEIVED 1909-14 = 100 PERCENT)

COMMODITY	DEC. 15 1951	JAN. 15 1952	JAN. 15 1951	JAN. 15 1950	JAN. 15 1949
NORTH CAROLINA INDEX NUMBERS					
ALL FARM PRODUCTS..	310	302	308	218	245
COTTON & COTTONSEED	321	319	346	214	242
GRAINS.....	195	199	192	163	182
MEAT ANIMALS.....	410	418	411	317	364
POULTRY.....	303	265	271	190	290
DAIRY PRODUCTS.....	250	247	242	223	242
TOBACCO.....	356 a/	318	-	256	294
MISCELLANEOUS.....	269	283	235	232	235
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID..	109	105	103	88	99
UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS					
PRICES RECEIVED....	305	300	300	235	268
PRICES PAID					
INTEREST & TAXES..	284	287	272	249	248
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID..	107	105	110	94	108

a/ Type 31 b/ Ratio of N.C. prices received to U.S. prices paid

FEED PRICES INCREASE

Prices paid by North Carolina farmers for most high protein and grain by-products feeds increased slightly during the month ended January 15.

Mixed dairy feeds containing 16 and 20 percent protein increased 5 cents per hundred pounds. Of the high protein feeds, soybean meal decreased 40 cents per hundred pounds

while cottonseed meal and meat scrap increased 10 cents.

Middlings and corn meal increased 10 and 15 cents respectively. Laying mash advanced 10 cents per hundred and scratch grain was up 5 cents.

All U. S. feed prices advanced during the month ended January 15.

CERTIFIED SEED POTATO PRODUCTION IN 1951 28 PERCENT SMALLER THAN RECORD 1950 CROP

Production of certified seed potatoes in 1951 is estimated at 38,650,982 bushels. This is the smallest crop of certified seed stock in 6 years, and compares with the record of 51,071,441 bushels in 1950, and the 1940-49 average of 33,488,401 bushels.

The reduction is attributed mostly to the sharply smaller acreage harvested in 1951, as the yield per acre of 332 bushels is only slightly smaller than the 1950 yield and is the third largest on record.

Reports from certifying officials in 31 States to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics show that 110,245 acres of certified seed were harvested in 1951. This acreage represents a reduction of 25 percent, or 35,937 acres from the 146,182 acres harvested in 1950, and compares with the 10-year average of 134,821 acres. More than 90 percent of the reduction in 1951 was in eight States--North Dakota, Minnesota, Maine, California, Idaho, Nebraska, Oregon, and New York.

Certifying officials reported on 56 varieties of seed potatoes in 1951. Reductions from the previous year were shown for 38 of these, with Madison, Menominee, Calrose, Chisago, Earliest of All, Gold Coin, and Red Bliss dropping out.

Increases occurred in 17 varieties with Kennebec, a blight-resistant variety adapted for northern areas, showing the most significant gain among the established varieties, and among the newer varieties, Cherokee, De Soto, Lasoda, and White Cloud showing sharp increases.

Katahdin, a widely adapted late variety, with a production of 10,853,109 bushels representing nearly 30 percent of all certified seed potatoes, led all other varieties for the fifth consecutive year. Cobbler, with 4,984,533 bushels, held second place; Triumph with 4,009,666 bushels, was third; Russet Burbank, with 3,722,266 bushels, was fourth; and White Rose, with 2,432,917 bushels, was fifth.

The combined production of 26 million bushels of these five leading varieties represents a drop of 32 percent from 1950. The sharp declines in these and other leading varieties were partly offset by a noteworthy increase in Kennebec potatoes.

From a mere beginning of 200 bushels produced in 1948, Kennebec, with a production of 1,868,461 bushels in 1951, ranked sixth among all varieties, and increases were shown by all 20 States where the variety was grown.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS DECEMBER 15, 1951

WITH COMPARISONS

FEED PER HUNDREDWEIGHT	NORTH CAROLINA		UNITED STATES	
	DEC. 15 1951	JAN. 15 1952	DEC. 15 1951	JAN. 15 1952
- DOLLARS -				
MIXED DAIRY FEED				
UNDER 29% PROTEIN				
ALL.....	4.40	4.40	4.47	4.53
16% PROTEIN.....	4.15	4.20	4.38	4.43
18% PROTEIN.....	4.30	4.30	4.52	4.58
20% PROTEIN.....	4.60	4.65	4.57	4.64
29% - OVER.....	5.40	5.50	5.28	5.32
HIGH PROTEIN FEEDS				
LINSEED MEAL.....	-	-	4.86	4.90
SOYBEAN MEAL.....	5.40	5.00	5.16	5.20
COTTONSEED MEAL.....	4.30	4.40	4.95	5.02
MEAT SCRAP.....	6.50	6.60	6.47	6.52
GRAIN BY-PRODUCTS				
BRAN.....	4.15	4.15	4.01	4.03
MIDDINGS.....	4.15	4.25	4.09	4.12
CORN MEAL.....	4.65	4.80	4.38	4.44
CORN GLUTEN.....	-	-	3.65	3.78
POULTRY FEED				
LAYING MASH.....	5.30	5.40	5.23	5.30
SCRATCH GRAIN.....	4.70	4.75	4.61	4.67

PEACH, PEAR AND PECAN PRODUCTION UP IN 1951

Commercial peach production in North Carolina during 1951 is estimated at 3,024,000 bushels -- 552 percent greater than the small 1950 crop when only 548,000 bushels were harvested.

The total value of the 3,024,000 bushels harvested is estimated at \$6,048,000 which exceeds the value of the 1950 crop by 148 percent.

Apple growers on the other hand harvested a smaller crop than last year. Production is estimated at 825,000 bushels, 36 percent below the 1950 harvest. Value of the 1951 crop is estimated at \$1,444,000, about 34 percent less than the value of the 1950 crop.

Pear production in the State is of little commercial significance. Production totalled 297,000 bushels compared with 150,000 bushels produced a year ago. Both production and value in 1951 almost doubled that of 1950.

The 5,700 tons of grapes produced in North Carolina during 1951 exceeded the 1950 crop by almost 4 percent or 200 tons.

The 1951 pecan crop was 50 percent above 1950 production. The 3,072,000 pounds of pecans produced in 1951 compares with a production of 2,047,000 pounds last year.

NORTH CAROLINA PRODUCTION, FARM DISPOSITION AND VALUE OF FRUITS AND NUTS - 1950, 1951

CROP	UNIT	PRODUCTION		FARM DISPOSITION				SEASONS AVE. PRICE		VALUE					
				FOR FARM HOUSEHOLD USE		SOLD		REC'D BY FARMERS		PRODUCTION		FOR HOUSEHOLD USE		FOR SALES	
		1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951
THOUSAND														THOUSAND	
APPLES.....	BU.	1,296	825	468	330	828	495	1.70	1.75	2,203	1,444	795	578	1,408	866
PEACHES.....	BU.	548	3,024	143	640	405	2,384	4.45	2.00	2,439	6,048	637	1,280	1,802	4,768
PEARS.....	BU.	150	297	122	180	128	117	2.00	1.80	300	535	244	324	56	211
GRAPES.....	TONS	5.5	5.7	3.4	3.4	2.1	2.3	165.00	125.00	908	712	562	424	346	288
PECANS (ALL)	LBS.	2,047	3,072	650	780	1,397	2,292	30.4	25.2	618	773	193	195	425	578
IMPROVED..	LBS.	1,842	2,704	550	660	1,292	2,044	31.6	26.0	571	703	170	172	401	531
SEEDLING..	LBS.	205	368	100	120	105	248	23.0	19.0	47	70	23	23	24	47

FARM REPORT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Raleigh, N. C.

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FEBRUARY 5, 1952

FARM REPORT

PAGE 4

RECORD TURKEY CROP EXPECTED

Tar Heel turkey growers have indicated that they expect to raise a record crop of 981,000 turkeys during 1952. This will be 35 percent more than the 727,000 produced in 1951 and 169 percent more than the five year (1944-48) average of 365,000.

For the United States an increase of about 11 percent in turkey production is expected if growers carry out their intentions. All areas of the country expect increases ranging from 4 percent in the South Central States to 31 percent in the South Atlantic States.

Reasons given by turkey growers for the increase over last year are higher turkey prices during the past season, a more favorable turkey-feed

price relationship and smaller cold storage holdings on January 1, 1952 than a year earlier.

The number of turkeys actually raised usually varies from January 1 intentions, the difference depending on price of feed, supply and price of hatching eggs and poults, and the value of turkeys remaining in growers' hands. Prices received by growers for turkeys during the last half of 1951 averaged 12 percent higher than in 1950 while feed prices were 10 percent higher, resulting in a more favorable price-feed relationship than in 1950. Live turkey prices in mid-December were 15 percent higher than a year earlier, while the cost of farm poultry ration was up 13 percent.

HONEY PRODUCTION (Continued)

Production of honey in the United States in 1951 totaled 259,006,000 pounds. This was 11 percent more than 1950 and 17 percent more than the 1945-49 average. Honey production per colony was 46.5 pounds, the highest yield since 1941, compared with 41.5 pounds in 1950 and the average of 39 pounds. The 1951 honey crop was produced by 5,572,000 colonies of bees, one percent less than 1950. Beeswax production in 1951 was 4,705,000 pounds compared with 4,275,000 in 1950.

HONEY PRODUCTION, 1950-51*

STATE	NUMBER COLONIES OF BEES 1951	HONEY PRODUC- TION PER COLONY	TOTAL HONEY PRODUCTION	
			1950	1951
	(000)	(POUNDS)	(1,000 POUNDS)	
N. C.	189	34	2,775	6,426
DEL.	3	30	75	90
MD.	29	25	640	725
VA.	157	29	3,021	4,553
W. VA.	123	20	2,159	2,460
S. C.	58	17	660	986
GA.	215	24	4,305	5,160
FLA.	218	82	16,224	17,876

* 1951 Preliminary

Farmers are expected to receive higher prices this winter than last for cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, escarole and lettuce...lower production coupled with strong demand.

Smaller supplies, in the face of strong demand, account for higher prices for corn and other feeds than a year ago.

COMPARISON OF TURKEYS RAISED 1949-1951

WITH GROWERS INTENTIONS FOR 1952

STATE AND DIVISION	TURKEYS RAISED					
	AVERAGE 1944-48	1949	1950	PRELIMINARY 1951	INTENDED IN 1952	
					NUMBER	% 1951
	THOUSANDS					
N. C.....	365	486	559	727	981	135
MD.....	420	417	438	460	506	110
VA.....	1,180	1,526	2,289	3,571	4,821	135
W. VA.....	414	682	887	1,064	1,383	130
DEL.....	82	70	74	85	98	115
S. C.....	385	714	771	1,002	1,162	116
GA.....	174	280	294	503	785	156
FLA.....	109	125	131	151	166	110
S. ATL.....	3,128	4,300	5,443	7,563	9,902	131
N. ATL....	3,196	3,397	3,638	4,008	4,285	107
E.N. CENT.	4,421	5,126	5,725	6,518	7,277	112
W.N. CENT.	10,394	10,765	11,847	12,819	13,450	105
S. CENT...	5,203	5,561	6,008	6,994	7,281	104
WEST.....	11,123	13,130	12,923	14,872	16,593	112
U. S.....	37,464	42,279	45,664	52,774	58,788	111